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who finds the generalized root type most extensively developed and a penetration of 60-70 inches not uncommon.

The reports abound in interesting details too numerous to mention in a review, are carefully organized and well illustrated with graphs, drawings, and photographs, forming a notable contribution to our knowledge of the vegetation of an unusually interesting region.—GEO. D. FULLER.

Taxonomic notes.—BLAKE¹⁵ has described a new variety of *Vernonia altissima* (*taeniotricha*) which occurs from Indiana and Illinois to Missouri and Mississippi.

BRITTON¹⁶ has published a list of the Cuban species of *Rhynchospora*, with an analytical key. It is in Spanish and appears among the publications entitled "Memorias de la Sociedad Poey." The author lists 55 species, 6 of which are described as new.

BURT,¹⁷ in continuation of his studies of North American Thelephoraceae, has monographed the genus *Coniophora*, recognizing 19 species, 5 of which are described as new.

DAVIE,¹⁸ in connection with the publication of a list of plants collected in Brazil in 1914, has described new species in *Gaultheria* and *Pleurostachys*.

FERNALD,¹⁹ in a series of short papers, has described new species and varieties in *Saxifraga* (province of Quebec) and *Vitis* (New England); also new varieties in various species of *Polygonum*, *Ranunculus* (4), *Anemone*, *Saxifraga*, *Cyperus*, *Stenophyllus*, and *Aster*.

FAWCETT and RENDLE²⁰ have described 3 new species of *Byrsonima* and a new *Zanthoxylum* from Jamaica.

HILL²¹ has published a revision of the genus *Strychnos* in India and throughout the East. In that region he recognizes 91 species, 24 of which are described as new.

HEMSLEY²² has described a new arborescent genus of Euphorbiaceae (*Riseleya*) from the Seychelles. It seems to be restricted to Mahé, where it was formerly common in the mountains.

¹⁵ BLAKE, S. F., *Rhodora* **19**:167. 1917.

¹⁶ BRITTON, N. L., El genero *Rhynchospora* Vahl, en Cuba. Contrib. Jard. Bot. N.Y. no. 194. pp. 16. 1917.

¹⁷ BURT, E. A., The Thelephoraceae of North America. VIII. *Coniophora*. Ann. Mo. Bot. Gard. **4**:237-269. figs. 19. 1917.

¹⁸ DAVIE, R. C., Some Brazilian plants. Jour. Botany **55**:215-223. 1917.

¹⁹ FERNALD, M. L., Contrib. Gray Herb. **19**:133-155. 1917.

²⁰ FAWCETT, W., and RENDLE, A. B., Notes on Jamaica plants. Jour. Botany **55**:268-271. 1917.

²¹ HILL, A. W., The genus *Strychnos* in India and the East. Kew Bulletin, 1917: nos. 4 and 5. pp. 121-210.

²² HEMSLEY, W. B., and TURRILL, W. B., Plants of Seychelles and Aldabra. Jour. Botany **55**:285-288. 1917.

HITCHCOCK and CHASE²³ have published a manual of all the known grasses of the West Indian Islands. The term "West Indies" is defined as including Bermuda, the Bahamas, Trinidad, and Tobago, but excludes the Dutch Islands off the coast of Venezuela. The publication contains descriptions of 455 species, representing 110 genera, including 17 new species and a new genus (*Saugelia*) related to *Gymnopogon*.

STEPHANI²⁴ has issued the fifth volume of his *Species Hepaticarum*, which deals with the Acrogynae, along with title page and index. He describes 296 species, chiefly established by himself, representing 16 genera, 9 of the species being new. The large genera are *Aneura* (113 spp.) and *Anthoceros* (64 spp.).

WERNHAM,²⁵ in continuation of his studies of tropical American Rubiaceae, has described 7 new species of *Psychotria*. The same author²⁶ has described 10 new species of *Palicourea* and 2 new species of *Cephaelis* from tropical America, chiefly Colombia.—J. M. C.

Sap concentration and plant communities.—Having developed a method of determining the osmotic pressure of cell sap by a depression of the freezing point, HARRIS²⁷ has proceeded to investigate the tissue fluids of plants typical of the deserts of Jamaica²⁸ and Arizona,²⁹ of the mesophytic vegetation of temperate regions, and of the rain forests of Jamaica.³⁰ Aside from an interesting mass of data regarding the peculiarities of the cell sap of individual species, two generalizations stand out as important contributions to ecological science. They are to the effect that (1) there is a direct relationship between growth forms and sap concentration, as shown in the higher osmotic concentration of

²³ HITCHCOCK, A. S., and CHASE, AGNES, Grasses of the West Indies. Contrib. U.S. Nat. Herb. 18:261-471. 1917.

²⁴ STEPHANI, F., *Species Hepaticarum*. Vol. V. Acrogynae (pars quarta). Geneva. 1916.

²⁵ WERNHAM, H. F., Tropical American Rubiaceae. IX. Jour. Botany 55:251-254. 1917.

²⁶ ———, Tropical American Rubiaceae. IX. Jour. Botany 55:279-285. 1917.

²⁷ GORTNER, R. A., and HARRIS, J. ARTHUR, Notes on the technique of the determination of the freezing point of vegetable saps. Plant World 17:49-53. 1914.

²⁸ HARRIS, J. ARTHUR, and LAWRENCE, J. V., Cryoscopic determinations on the tissue fluids of the plants of the Jamaican coastal deserts. Bot. Gaz. 64:285-305. 1917.

²⁹ HARRIS, J. ARTHUR, et al., On the osmotic pressure of the juices of desert plants. Science N.S. 41:656-658. 1915.

HARRIS, J. ARTHUR, and LAWRENCE, J. V., The cryoscopic constants of expressed vegetable saps as related to local conditions in the Arizona deserts. Physiol. Researches 2:1-49. 1916.

³⁰ HARRIS, J. ARTHUR, and LAWRENCE, J. V., The osmotic concentration of the tissue fluids of Jamaican montane rain forest vegetation. Amer. Jour. Bot. 4:268-298. 1917.